

The Missouri Herald

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AN INFAMOUS PROPOSAL.

Secretary Mellon's suggestion that the surtax on large incomes be reduced because wealthy men will not pay them is as infamous a proposal as was ever made by a high official of this Government. It is doubly reprehensible because those who would benefit from it are Mr. Mellon's own friends and associates. It amounts to nothing less than a surrender of the Government to wealthy law-breakers. Suppose the sheriff of Pemiscot county should recommend to the Legislature that the statutes against highway robbery be amended so that footpads would be willing to abide by them! If this Government has reached a point where it admits that it cannot collect the taxes that it assesses, then the Government has failed, and we are in a state of anarchy.

Of course, we are in no such state. The Government can collect its taxes. Regardless of what Mr. Mellon may say, there is no individual in this country wealthy enough and powerful enough to defy the will of the nation. They could be made to pay by a Secretary of the Treasury who was really determined that they should pay.

Incidentally, this raises an interesting point. We have repeatedly been told that the prosperity and progress of the country depends upon the initiative, foresight and patriotism of its captains of industry. Now we are told—and by one of the very richest of them—that these gentlemen have no concern beyond that of making profits for themselves, and that when they are deprived, through taxation, of the privilege of piling up personal wealth, they simply cease operations. So much for their patriotism. From what source does their wealth come? It comes almost entirely from the exploitation of the country's natural resources. Mr. Mellon, himself, the "Aluminum King," is a good example of that class. If it is true, as Mr. Mellon says, that these gentlemen will only operate so long as it is for their own benefit, then it is time to take from them these natural resources and restore them to the people as a whole, so that they may actually be utilized for the benefit of the nation. We cannot afford to have the prosperity and welfare of the country in the hands of men who will let it go hang as soon as their profits are molested.

MAKE CHRISTMAS SAFE.

Christmas is nearly here. We will soon read of the Christmas trees that were ignited through careless use of candles or electric wiring. We will read of houses that were burned down as a result, and we will read of children and grown people whose Christmas parties were turned into occasions of mourning due to death by fire caused by carelessness in handling inflammable materials in connection with Christmas festivities. What a pity that a day of rejoicing will be turned into a day of sorrow in many homes as a result of pure carelessness. What a wonderful thing it would be if every family would make it a point to see that every possible fire hazard was eliminated from Christmas festivities. Think of the saving that would result in lives and property.

Some fond parents make a great mistake. They bring their children up as they would hothouse plants. They are continually kept indoors, are seldom allowed to enjoy the companionship of other children, and are denied that life in the open that puts red blood into human veins. Years later, when they develop weak or abnormal minds, or show a lack of capacity for success in the world of affairs, their deficiencies become a handicap to them and a source of grief to the parents who could have prevented such a condition had they adopted the right course in the beginning. The sun shines for little children as well as adults. Let them enjoy it to the full if you would have them justify the love and devotion you bestow upon them.

When shivering in the cold this winter do not allow your thoughts to dwell too much upon shivering. That is too oppressive. Turn them toward the warm and sunny days of another summer. That would be anticipative. Dwelling too much upon disagreeable things shuts out the brighter side of life. It stifles enthusiasm and renders impatient many of the best efforts of mankind. We have but one life to live upon this earth, and that life will be only as we make it. Bright spots should be cultivated until they become the predominant side of existence. Dark ones should be eradicated and then forgotten. Shiver—but think of the sunny days ahead.

When a movement is undertaken for the benefit of this town every citizen has a right to his own opinion and there can be no valid objection to according him such right. The opposition, however, should come out in the open and make their objection known, in order that weak points may be given due consideration. It is only by such means that objectionable features can be corrected or eliminated. The man who opposes in secret and works under cover does more harm than good, both to himself and to the community.

AS THE EDITOR SEES IT

There are some people who go through life with a smooth serenity that is seldom ruffled. It is not ruffled because they do not trouble to go deeply into affairs and conditions around them. They do no harm in the world, and sometimes exert themselves to the extent of doing a little good. We like them, but they command no great amount of admiration.

There is another class, and they are in the majority, who are not averse to speaking their minds. Generally they are fair students of men and conditions, dig down after facts, make up their minds after a careful analysis, and then stand by their convictions. They give praise where it is due, but do not hesitate to censure when it becomes necessary. They are the constructive citizens of this country.

And then there is still a third class. They are the kickers—the chronic ones—and their happiest moments are, when they are kicking at something, or somebody, or both. They come into the world kicking, go through life with a kick, and kick like the devil because they have to shuffle off. They are destructive to society, but more destructive to themselves. The choice is yours.

The other side of the story is always important. And the people are so fair that they know this, and imagine the other side of the story, if they do not hear it. When a man tells a prejudiced and untruthful story of an enemy, he should not imagine that the people will believe him. They are too fair for that; they imagine the other side of the story, and do the absent man justice. They also think less of the man who tells the exaggerated story. It is a mistake to imagine that a man can injure an enemy by "talking" about him. It is as impossible to injure an enemy by "talking" about him as it is to make yourself popular by self-praise. All such things are regulated by unchangeable laws, and every man is judged as he deserves, in spite of gossip. From somewhere comes justice, and every man may depend upon it. If a man strives to be honest and fair, there is a power that will see that he receives proper credit. There is a controversy as to what this power is, but it never fails. We believe it is the natural fairness of the people, who are always right in the end, and who finally acknowledge their mistakes and correct them.

Providence has smiled on the farmer, sent him abundant rain to make his crop produce a good yield, and withheld the blight of frost until it was matured and gathered. We never had a more perfect season. And as a result the cotton crop was nearly doubly as large as it ever was before in this county. It is said there was never before as much money in the banks of Pemiscot county as at the present time, which argues well for business men generally. The merchants have bought larger stocks in anticipation of a greatly increasing trade, and it seems they have no cause to be disappointed. While money is getting easier all around, every man should make an extra effort to pay his debts, large or small, and this would include arrearage subscriptions to The Missouri Herald. We should be pleased, indeed, to have every one paid up to January, 1923, and feel that the amount is so small that all who owe us could do that—if they would.

Be a student of human nature. You will learn much and be wiser. A certain project is suggested for the home town. John Smith is an enthusiastic supporter. He sees success at every turn. There can be no such thing as failure. Tom Jones opposes. He can see nothing good in the project. It is doomed to certain failure, with disaster in its wake. There you have the two extremes of life in a small community—the stumbling block which prosperity is unable to surmount or sidestep. Smith is granite in his optimism. Jones is flint in his pessimism. Somewhere there is a middle course—most likely the correct and safe solution—but neither Smith nor Jones is willing to take it, or even consider it. They stand pat—and the town stands still.

Pemiscot county has not as good record for dragging the roads the past year as it should have. Had dragging been done properly our roads would be much better now that winter has come with its mud and its thaws. Good roads are the best advertisement any community can have, and while of great benefit to the towns, they are worth more to the farmers, for good roads increase facilities for travel to markets and also increase the price of farm lands. Now is a good time to talk over the road situation and make our plans to do better next year than we did this.

Live merchants advertise because they want the people to know of the goods they have to sell, especially when more than ordinary values are offered. People read the ads because they want to know where they can buy to the best advantage, and this can only be determined by knowing what the merchants have to offer. The local paper is the medium between the seller and the buyer. The one should use it and the other should read it.

If you have a new idea, spring it. This country has become great because its citizens have had the brains to produce ideas and the courage to work them out to fruition. But don't expect to revolutionize the world with one blast. The world is older than we are. It will be here after we are gone, and other brains will be producing ideas that are a hundred times better than ours. It may be so with your idea, but it will not be so as long as you keep it bottled up. Spring it.

Some people loaf themselves to death. They are chronically lazy, lacking in ambition, and without sufficient energy to take the daily exercise that nature requires in order to keep the body functioning in normal condition. Their intellects become dulled, their minds clogged, their joints become stiff, and the red blood of youth turns to the water of premature old age. They just drift, and sink, and are promptly forgotten. A fitting end to a worthless career.



A Delightful Holiday Remembrance

Joy fills the air; for with Christmas and the New Year come days of glad reunion. On these days your presence, the sound of your voice, is valued above all precious gifts.

But what if distance prevents your actually joining the happy circle? Your telephone then is the friendly tie. It takes no heed of miles—of rivers, mountains or deserts.

It enables you to send your voice—your own personality—to the spot where the little gathering eagerly awaits you. Call them by telephone and they will feel that you are with them.

Ask the Long Distance operator about Station to Station calls and particularly the low rates prevailing after 8:30 p. m.

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE Co.

Your Voice is You—Visit Them by Telephone

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Superintendent of Schools—
K. V. PROPST

The contract was let this week to D. W. Miller for the finishing of the upper rooms of the new city hall building, which will be rented as soon as ready.

PEARL POOL HALL

I have moved my cold drink outfit to the Pearl Building, and recently installed a NEW and complete outfit of pool tables and necessary equipment. You are cordially invited to come and spend a few hours of pleasant pastime. Perfect order guaranteed.

W. P. MEATTE, Prop.

The Season's Greetings

1922 has been good to us, but only through the cooperation of our patrons.

We sincerely thank them, and wish for all a

Merry Christmas
and Happy
New Year

J. V. MOORE
Market, Grocery, Restaurant
HAYTI, MISSOURI